



May 9, 2007

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Executive Committee

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

THROUGH: Eric Schatmeier, Manager of Planning

RE: Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), Formation Options, Agenda Item 6

Dear Commissioners:

### **Executive Summary**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has mandated the creation of county Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees (BPACs) to advise on candidate project applications for State Transportation Development Act Article 3 funds the region administers and for applications for funding under MTC's Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (RBPP). As the CMA for Marin, TAM is charged with establishing the county's BPAC. Until now, TAM has utilized a five-member Bicycle Advisory Group (BAG) originally formed to advise the Marin County Public Works Department.

Staff has researched committee composition in other counties and formulated three options for TAM's BPAC. These options have been presented to interested groups such as the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, the Marin County Public Works Association and the current county Bicycle Advisory Group (at a special May 7 meeting). Staff's recommendation will reflect input from these groups.

**Recommendation: That the TAM Executive Committee recommend to the full TAM Board the formation of a county Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to replace the current Bicycle Advisory Group (BAG). Staff will review the three options (attached) and make a final recommendation at the Executive Committee meeting.**

### **Background**

To ensure appropriate public participation in the award of State TDA Article 3 funds and Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program funds, Bay Area counties have created Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committees (BPACs) at the encouragement and direction of MTC. TAM staff conducted research into the make-up and duties of other counties' BPACs and learned that membership ranges from 11 to 16 members and that, typically, members are appointed to represent city and county municipal jurisdictions. Committee members are usually appointed by members of the Congestion Management Agency Board of Directors to ensure wide geographic representation.

### **Findings**

In Marin, three alternatives consistent with common practice suggest themselves to staff (see attached summary chart.). In the first of these a completely new committee is appointed with representatives from each city and town in the county, one member from West Marin and another from the other unincorporated areas of the county. This 17-member alternative also includes Senior and Disabled representatives, a Pedestrian member and an appointee from the Marin Public Works Association.

A second alternative (indicated as Option 3 on the chart) uses the current Measure A Technical Advisory Committee as the BPAC. This committee has broad modal and functional representation including members representing both bicycle and pedestrian interests. The current TAC is a 13-member committee.

The third alternative builds on the success of the current county Bicycle Advisory Group (BAG) who advises the County Public Works Department. In this alternative, membership on the newly appointed BPAC would consist of the five current members of the BAG expanded to 11 with two additional geographic representatives, and a representative from senior and disabled communities, pedestrians and the Marin Public Works Association. The smallest in size of the three alternatives, this option blends geographic representation with broad modal representation to produce a committee of manageable size. Staff will be consulting with the BAG regarding its continued participation as part of the BPAC and make a final report of its findings and recommendations at the Executive Committee meeting.

**Recommendation:** That the TAM Executive Committee recommend to the full TAM Board formation of a county Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to replace the current Bicycle Advisory Group (BAG). Staff will review the three options (attached) and make a final recommendation at the Executive Committee meeting.

**Attachment:** Bike Pedestrian Advisory Committee – TAM Options for Restructuring

Bike Pedestrian Advisory Committee - TAM options for restructuring

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